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MEDIA RELEASE

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DON'T WASTE WATER ON YOUR LAWN - LAWN SPRINKLING REGULATIONS BEGIN JUNE 1, 2008

Don't waste water on your lawn. But if you must water, Metro Vancouver is advising residents and businesses that lawn sprinkling regulations are in effect from June 1 to September 30.

Lawn sprinkling is allowed only from 4 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the following days:

- Even-numbered addresses can sprinkle Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Odd-numbered addresses can sprinkle Thursdays and Sundays.

The regulations apply only to lawns. However , Metro Vancouver is encouraging residents and businesses to think about water conservation and to make WaterSmart choices everyday.

"It's particularly important to reduce water use during the peak demand period of summer in order to maintain a sufficient water supply. Using less water in general defers the need for system upgrades to the water supply infrastructure including dams, pipes and pumping stations, and supports the sustainability goals of Metro Vancouver's Sustainable Region Initiative," said Councillor Tim Stevenson, Metro Vancouver Water Committee Chair.

WaterSmart Tips:

There are many ways to save water at home and in your yard. Check out these tips for WaterSmart yard care:

- Most lawns only need 2.5 centimetres of water each week, which can easily be applied by sprinkling once a week.
- Water your lawn only when necessary and early in the morning to reduce evaporation. Don't water on windy or rainy days.
- Let your lawn go dormant during the summer. Brown is the new green in lawn care!
- Choose the right sprinkler for your lawn. Efficient sprinklers provide an even spray of large, fat drops, not a fine mist.
- Use a watering can or a hose with a springloaded nozzle to water flower beds and gardens when they need it.
- Regularly check your outdoor taps, pipes, hoses and sprinklers for leaks.
- When you add or replace a shrub or flower in your yard, choose a low water use plant for year round colour.
- Contact your municipality to learn about water conservation programs including water conservation kits and rain barrel programs.

For more information and WaterSmart Tips for your home and yard, visit www.metrovancouver.org, email icentre@metrovancouver.org or call 604-432-6200. For lawn sprinkling enforcement information, residents are advised to contact their municipality.

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